Linux Tips and Tricks

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Abstract

This document contains a collection of links to my notes on Linux which I am maintaining on the site titled All about Linux. These notes cover my experiences in using Linux as well as System and Network administration topics. The notes are writen in such a manner that it becomes easy to grasp the concepts easily even by a person new to linux.This is my endevour to share my knowledge with people who are interested in learning Linux and becoming more productive in using this OS.

This document is best viewed in Adobe Acrobat Reader.

1.   Linux Tutorials

1.1.   Bash Shell

Editing a Bash Command
Bash completion - Makes life easier for Linux users.
Special Shell Variables - Used in shell scripts.
Bash shell shortcuts
Configuring Xterm in Linux
10 Seconds guide to Bash Scripting
Enhancing system prompt $PS1
Make your bash scripts userfriendly using `dialog`
`screen` - A window manager for the console.
Find number of days elapsed since Jan 1

1.2.   Audio and Video

Burning audio and data CDs in Linux
How to play VCD `.dat` files using `mplayer`
Convert a VCD `.dat` file into `mp3`

1.3. Installing files in Linux

RPM package manager
Package management using YUM
Autopackage - The vendor neutral installer for Linux.
Convert between RPM, Deb and Tgz package formats
How to make your own package CDs for ofline use
Installing Mono in Linux
Configuring Java in Linux

1.4. Installing Linux

Installing RedHat directly from the ISOs saved on your harddisk
Installing Linux on a Mac Mini
Installing Ubuntu Linux alongside Windows OS
Linux installation on new machine
Dual booting WinXP and Fedora Core 2

1.5. Tricks with Editors in Linux

Vim - The powerful simple editor.
Use Abiword to convert filetypes on the command line

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1.6.   Software Reviews

Scribus - The free DTP software for Linux.
Flock - The new experimental web browser for Linux
PDF viewers for Linux
OpenOffice.org Ver 2.0 - The Top Office Suite for Linux

1.7.   Network Security

Designing a firewall using `Iptables`
`iptables` - The poor man's robust firewall for Linux
TCP Wrappers in Linux
Apache Webserver - Restrict access to your website.

1.8.   Network Tips

Routing, NAT and Gateways explained
Apache - Namebased Vs IPbased Virtual Hosting
Understanding DNS
DNS on Linux part I
DNS on Linux Part II
DNS on Linux Part III
Who owns which port

NIS client - server configuration
DHCP server configuration
Change the `hostname` of your machine

1.9.   Mail server and clients

Sendmail - An Introduction
Sendmail Configuration - Relevent details
Change your MTA - from Sendmail to Postfix and vice versa.
Redirecting `root`'s mail to another mail account
Mutt - The versatile email client for Linux
`fetchmail` and Gmail - Download mail from your gmail account using fetchmail.

1.10.   System Administration

Different ways of locking a user's account in Linux
Prevent a non-root user from shutting down / rebooting machine
Disk Quotas in Linux
Change system login banner in Linux
Enable centralised logging
System logging explained
Tips to secure your computer

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find - Finding files in Linux
Cron - Scheduling tasks in Linux the easy way.
SSH - Secure SHell explained
Setting up SSH in Linux
SUDO - Give selective super user powers to users or group of users.
Job Control
Sharing directories amoung several users - SUID, Sticky Bit etc.
/proc filesystem explained
NFS - Client and Server configuration.
System Logging in Linux
hdparm - Boosting your harddisk performance.

1.11. Linux Filesystem

Mounting NTFS filesystem in Linux
autofs - Auto-mounting your filesystem dynamically
LVM creation - Logical Volume Management creation in Linux.
Resizing LVM

1.12. Linux Backup

CPIO - Creating tar files using cpio.
Backup your data with rsync

1.13.   Hardware Configuration

Configuring Rockwell chipset winmodem in Linux
Configuring Sound in Linux
Configuring Microsoft Serial Intellimouse
NVIDIA - Graphics card configuration explained.
Installing Harddrive in Linux
Howto install a network card in Linux
Assigning an IP address to your NIC
Setting up multiple IP addresses on a single NIC
How to change MAC address of your machine
Find the speed of your NIC

1.14.   Linux Kernel

Kernel compilation from source - Linux 2.6
Kernel compilation from source - Linux 2.4

1.15.   Database Tips

MySQL Cheatsheet

1.16.   Linux GUI Configuration

Enable restart option in KDE Menu

1.17.   Internet and Linux

Connecting to BSNL internet dialup account

1.18.   Linux News

The process of chip making explained
GPL FAQ
$100 Laptops running Linux
Interview with Richard.M.Stallman
Popular Linux Links

1.19.   Linux EyeCandy

`3ddesktop` - The desktop switcher on steroids
Linux Eyecandy

New Desktop Theme
Skinning your Desktop
Window Managers in Linux
Tag your files in GNOME
Howto use windows fonts in Mozilla

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